

3-5-2014

## Easterner, Vol. 65, No. 19, March 5, 2014

Associated Students of Eastern Washington University

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### Recommended Citation

Associated Students of Eastern Washington University, "Easterner, Vol. 65, No. 19, March 5, 2014" (2014). *Student Newspapers*. 760.  
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## ‘Le Gurlz’ show evokes struggles, fun and glitter



Photo by Sam Sargeant  
Freedom Rights takes the stage on Feb. 27.

By Rebekah Frank  
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Drag queen Nova Kaine brought her “Le Gurlz” to EWU to dance, sing, educate, have fun and raise funds for the Spokane AIDS Network.

During the educational workshop in the PUB on Feb. 27, Kaine discussed her background on the drag show and her own personal struggles. EWU Pride Center Coordinator Sandra Williams said Kaine talked about the history of drag, educated attendees on the event, about those involved and even shared personal stories about her struggles with coming out to her family.

Williams appreciates the experience that the workshop brings to the drag show. In

order to encourage students to come to the workshop Williams offers VIP tickets available to those who come, and after the workshop those in attendance were seated first. After that, if there were any VIP tickets left they were sold, and the next round of VIP get to choose their seats.

“I think people come to get the tickets, ... and then by the time it is over I think people have learned a whole lot,” said Williams.

EWU senior Samantha Harwood was one of those in attendance at the workshop who received a VIP ticket and first access to the drag show. Harwood said she has been to the workshop and drag show every year since coming to EWU, and enjoys the educational side of it as much as the fun side.

“I think it is one of the most fun events, but it is also one of the most educational. I wish more people would go to it,” said Harwood.



Photo by Sam Sargeant  
Alaska struts her stuff on stage during the Drag Show.

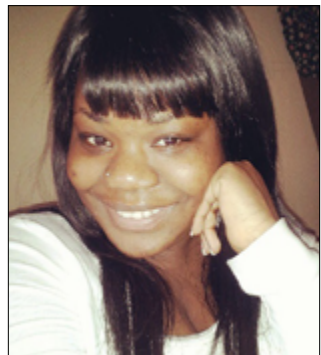
The workshop was not the only educational part of this event. While students and Cheney community members were filing into the PUB MPR, there were two big screens up by the stage that were playing videos of the performers getting ready. One video showed Dyke Turner putting on his makeup.

He filled in his eyebrows with eye liner to make them look thicker, and then he would run his finger across them in the opposite direction of the hair flow to make them look fluffy.

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## Governor signs state Dream Act

Undocumented students have become eligible to compete for state and federal aid

By Wilson Criscione  
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On Feb. 26, Gov. Jay Inslee signed Washington state’s version of the Dream Act, which will allow undocumented immigrants to receive the state need grants they need to pay for college.

Six EWU students traveled to Olympia, Wash., to be present for the signing of the bill, celebrating the hard work many of them have done to bring the bill to Inslee’s desk.

“It’s an incredible day,” said ASEWU Vice President Francisco Navarro.

The bill will make it possible for undocumented students to apply for financial aid, as long as the student has received the equivalent of a high school diploma in Washington. The bill also requires the person to have lived in Washington for at least three years immediately before receiving the diploma.

This means that undocumented students, like Navarro, will no longer have to rely solely on scholarships to fund their education.

The bill’s enactment came only a month and a half after state Reps. Marcus Riccelli and Zack Hudgins led a rally in support of the Dream Act on the front steps of the PUB.



Photo contributed by Elena Calderon  
Gov. Jay Inslee, Democrat, supports “Dreamers.”

Many students, including Navarro and Elena Calderon, another undocumented Eastern student getting her master’s degree in public health, have been advocating this bill for years.

He has traveled to Olympia with other students for the past five years, pleading lawmakers to allow those like him to receive state-based financial aid.

After being born in Mexico,

Navarro came to the U.S. when he was 15 years old. He immediately started working in the fields as a high school sophomore, picking apples, pears and pumpkins.

He earned a 3.7 GPA in high school at Sunnyside, Wash., and chose to go to EWU because of the scholarships available to him. But he quickly learned that the \$6,000 awarded to him would not be enough.

“Pretty quickly, I found myself in trouble, trying to figure out how I was going to pay for school,” Navarro said. “I was always in debt.”

As a computer science major, he did everything he could to scrape together enough money to stay in school. He would fix computers for students and faculty members and on weekends he went back to the fields.

After having to drop out of school multiple times so he could save up enough money to continue his education, he decided to look for other scholarships. He said he researched at least 30-40 scholarships that could help him through school.

He got a call from Microsoft while he was working in the field, and they offered him a scholarship. Soon after, Google also offered him a scholarship of \$10,000. He was able to continue his education at Eastern Washington, and this time around, he wanted to give back to the school.

“I decided that it was time for me to contribute in a greater way to the Eastern community, so that’s why I decided to run for office,” Navarro said.

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## ‘Central Park Five’ shines dark light on broken justice system in New York City

By Shannon Bedell  
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“The Central Park Five” depicts the story of Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Raymond Saldana, Yusef Salaam and Kharey Wise, the five youth accused and convicted of raping Trisha Meili, a 29-year-old investment banker, in 1989’s Central Park Jogger case.

On Feb. 27, Dr.

LaToya Brackett, coordinator for Africana studies, screened the 2012 documentary based on the lives of those convicted in the Central Park Jogger case. The film opens with the social climate of New York City in 1989.

New York Times journalist Jim Dwyer said, “New York was a completely schizophrenic divided city.”

In 1989 there were

over 5,000 cases of rape and over 2,000 murders in New York state.

Rev. Calvin Butts, pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City, said, “[In the late 1980s] the young black man was the most endangered species in New York.”

The documentary then goes to the night of the crime and the individuals convicted of it. McCray, Richardson, Sal-

dana, Salaam and Wise all grew up in the same neighborhood but for the most part were just neighbors and acquaintances. On the night of April 19, McCray, Richardson, Saldana, Salaam and Wise followed a group of boys from their neighborhood into Central Park where members of the larger group started throwing rocks at cars and bikes, attacked a homeless man and caused other havoc.

At 1:30 a.m. on April 20, 1989, Meili was found in Central Park suffering from severe hypothermia, blood loss, internal bleeding and a fracture to her head caused her left eye to be removed from the socket. She was rushed to the hospital but had no recollection of the attack.

**CENTRAL - PAGE 8**

#### Upcoming Events:



Visit easterneronline.com

Laugh along with **comedian Gina Brillon** on **March 5 at 7 p.m.** in the PUB MPR.

**March 8** is **International Women’s Day**. The Riverpoint campus will hold workshops led by Planned Parenthood and the YWCA, as well as a keynote address

by Lobna Saeed, a Fullbright language teacher from Cairo, Egypt. These events will take place from **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Riverpoint Academic Center**.

**Active Minds** will host an event on **March 10** for eating disorder awareness and

healthy body image. This event will take place in the **PUB MPR from 7-9 p.m.**

**March 11** is the spring Study Abroad Fair in 201 **Hargreaves Hall** from **9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** The Office of Global Initiatives will discuss overseas travel,

study abroad scholarships and international internships.

Winter quarter is coming to a close, with **final exams occurring March 18-21**.

**Spring break runs March 22-30**.

**EWU Hunger Run/Walk** is **March 8**. Registration is at 9 a.m. and the run begins at 10 a.m. The route begins and ends at **Zentropa Pizzeria and Pub in downtown Cheney**. Bring two cans of food to donate to the Cheney Food Bank.



1

Remain in building and report outage by calling x2245.

2

Do not attempt to leave the building without adequate lighting.

3

Call 911 for assistance.

Tips for a power outage

Graphic by Kyle Pearson  
In the event of a power outage, students can follow these three steps.

## Outdated electrical system causes delays during EWU campus power outage

By Aaron Bocook  
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Just as he was arriving home Feb. 18, Craig Opsal received an urgent phone call. There was a power outage on Eastern Washington University’s campus, and he had to come back to work.

Opsal is in charge of electricity and lighting for EWU facilities and planning and is one of the few people working in the switch room who can re-start the power.

“The guy who would normally be there had already left for home,” Opsal said. “And the only other guy was on vacation.”

The power outage occurred a few minutes after 4 p.m., according to Jim Noland, the City of Cheney Light Department director. It affected the entire city of Cheney and surrounding areas.

Though power was back on within 20 minutes for most of

Cheney, the Eastern campus was dark for over two hours.

Noland said the lack of power was caused by a transmission line outage that feeds power into the city.

Cheney purchases its power from the Bonneville Power Administration, which supplies about one-third of the electric power used in the Northwest.

Most of the transmission into Cheney is through BPA lines, but the last segment is through Avista lines.

“My understanding is the Avista portion of the transmission lines went out,” Noland said. “They tried to switch us onto their alternate feed, which lasted for a short amount of time, maybe a minute or two longer.”

Thanks to some fast remote switching on behalf of Avista, power was available to both the city of Cheney and the EWU campus by 4:25 p.m.

OUTAGE - PAGE 8

## Professor educates on tension in Middle-Eastern countries

By Wilson Criscione  
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Raised in Iran and educated in America, Majid Sharifi aims to problematize the complexities of the U.S.-Iran relationship, which he says is a byproduct of over a century of political turmoil in Iran.

Sharifi, a government professor at EWU, gave a presentation on Feb. 20 based on his new book, “Imagining Iran, the Tragedy of a Subaltern Nationalism.” The book argues that ruling regimes in Middle Eastern countries, such as Iran, have continuously failed to nationalize their official identities.

In contrast, successful nation-states, says Sharifi, are able to nationalize their official state identity, creating a shared sense of oneness between the state and the people.

The result has been tragic because the populations of these countries, like Iran, learn to identify with contending visions of the national self, with each population seeing the others as their enemies. He believes these failures have caused a series of regime changes.

The failure to nationalize their identity creates what Sharifi calls “subaltern nation,” whose collective desire is to become developed, democratic and constitutional. The problem is that the collective mind of all subaltern nationalists conflicts with itself. This makes it more likely that their nationalist movements would fail in the future, as they have failed in the past.

“That is why I have called this a tragedy,” Sharifi said.

Sharifi was raised in Iran before the 1979 revolution, a time when Iranians had a similar resentment toward their regime as they do today. He was at the heart of what he calls the “political beast of Iran.”

He moved to the U.S. during the 1979 Iranian revolution. His



Photo by Sam Sargeant  
Majid Sharifi’s new book educates on international relations.

brother and three sisters still live in Iran today, and Sharifi continually visits his home country.

The perspective of someone who has lived in Iran, compared to that of someone who simply watches the news, hugely differs in his mind. Living in a different social context gives people a comparative point of reference, which allows them to understand different cultures better.

He believes the American public simply cannot understand certain things about the Iranian people and their politics. This is from having lived their whole lives in the same country and being exposed to the mainstream media that tends to confuse, rather than inform.

“Many people in this country have no analytical or comparative point of reference,” Sharifi said. “Of course, this is caused by a set of political factors that can, in fact, threaten our democracy in this country, as well as retard, as it has, democratic development in Iran.”

Nationalism, Sharifi explains,

PROFESSOR - PAGE 8

## Eastern alumna returns to Africa

By Aaron Bocook  
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When she was just four years old, Hawa Hussein and her family were forced to flee Somalia as political refugees.

For the next few years, they lived in refugee camps in Kenya. In 1998, just after her ninth birthday, Hussein and her family left Africa to make a new home in the United States, a place that seemed a world away.

Sixteen years later, she will be leaving her home again — this time to return to Africa as a Peace Corps volunteer.

On March 3, Hussein will be flying to Philadelphia, Pa., for staging and will arrive in Johannesburg, South Africa on March 6.

Her final destination is Malawi, where she will be a community development adviser for HIV and AIDS.

The story of her Peace Corps experience actually started almost three years ago. “This journey didn’t just begin. It began way back when I was at Eastern,” she said.

At the 2011 career fair, Hussein spoke to a Peace Corps recruiter. She said ever since then, she was

interested in going to another country to help people, and going back to Africa to help women had always been on her mind.

“I kept getting emails and stuff,” said Hussein. “And my senior year, I didn’t apply to grad school; I didn’t know what I wanted to do. Then I heard from a friend that he was going to Madagascar for Peace Corps, and I was like, ‘Oh my God, the Peace Corps.’ At that moment, I was like, ‘Why did I not think of that?’”

Mayra Nowakowski, Peace Corps recruiter and representative for Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, said when a Peace Corps volunteer goes to another country, he or she takes a piece of America with them and gives it to the people in that country. When the volunteers return, they bring a little piece of that country back with them.

It is a cross-cultural exchange that Hussein has experienced before. But the first time, she did it backwards.

“I spent most of my childhood in Africa in the camps in Kenya, until I was 8 years old, so that’s where most of my memories of Africa are,” said Hussein. “We came from a very hot place to a very cold place. It was during the winter that

we arrived in Colorado. It was so cold. It was just horrible.”

She said learning English was one of the most difficult challenges for her family, though it was much easier for her than for her parents.

When she was 11, her family moved permanently from Colorado to Seattle.

Hussein graduated from Garfield High School in 2008. She felt like her life was a blank slate, ready to be chalked up.

She always wanted to go to college, but did not know where, or how, she would get there. After high school, a guidance counselor at College Access Now, a resource for low-income students in Seattle, directed Hussein to go to Eastern. She applied, and in July 2008 she was accepted.

One of her primary advisers, Dr. Dorothy Zeisler-Vralsted, EWU professor of government, remembers Hussein well.

“Hawa [Hussein] was my student in several of my classes,” Zeisler-Vralsted said. “Hawa [Hussein] has an outgoing, gregarious personality, never lacking for a sense of humor.”

By the time she graduated in 2013, she had earned two bachelor’s degrees in international affairs and

AFRICA - PAGE 4

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## EAGLE LIFE

# Black tie banquet unites students together

By Kailee Dunn  
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As women strolled through the room wearing flapper dresses and pearls and men stood tall wearing tuxes and ties, the voice of Ella Fitzgerald filled the air as students were transported to a different point in history.

The EWU Black Student Union and ASEWU hosted the Black Tie Banquet in the Hargreaves Reading Room on Feb. 28 to recognize several of Eastern’s students and faculty members for their outstanding service. The theme of the event was Harlem Renaissance.

According to BSU President Satori Butler, the Harlem Renaissance was a point in the 1920s when there was a cultural movement for African-Americans. The Public Broadcasting Service’s “The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow” describes this movement as an explosion of African-American writers, poets, musicians and scholars.

To begin, Denzel Johnson welcomed everyone and presented the first award to ASEWU President D.J. Jigre for “making a difference.” Jigre was not present at the banquet, so Johnson accepted the award on his behalf.

“This award is presented to someone who is making a difference and going against the grain,” Johnson said. “He’s such a hard worker.”

Also presented with a “Making a Difference” award was Jackie Vaughn.

“Social change is something that I’m big about, and to be recognized by my peers for this means a lot,” said Vaughn.

Two faculty members, Bayyinah Jeffries, assistant professor for the EWU Africana Studies, and Lynn Burks-Herres secretary senior of



Photo by Sam Sargeant  
Olivia Gaghagan sings “Wrong Side of the Bed” during the black tie banquet put on by the EWU Black Student Union.

the psychology department, were recognized with the “Outstanding Administration Professional” award for their exemplary work for social justice.

“It is an honor to get an award for something I just enjoy doing,” Burks-Herres said.

Other award recipients included Haite Toure and Veronica Simmons for “Most Valuable

Member” in BSU, Susie Kang for “Academic Excellence,” Molly Ayers and Gabby Ryan for “Most Involved” in the community and T.J. Lee III for “Athlete of the Year.”

“I didn’t know I was going to be accepting this award tonight, so thank you,” Lee said.

Following the awards, dinner was served, courtesy of EWU Dining Services. The meal in-

cluded chicken wings, meatballs, vegetables, fruit, fruit punch and red velvet and white cakes with raspberry filling.

The audience had an opportunity to show off their snazzy duds on the dance floor following dinner.

In addition, there were also musical performances by Zhirsty Lauulu, who sang “At Last,” Olivia Gaghagan, who sang “Wrong Side

of the Bed,” and a poetry reading done by Jannessa Durden.

Senior Jacquenette Boyd said overall the event was about bringing the school together.

“[The banquet] is just to wrap up Black History Month. It’s open to all students throughout Eastern, so [they] can be more together and not cliquy with different races and diversity,” Boyd said.

## Greek myth professor driven by passion for history

By Shawntelle Moncy  
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A temple, crusader churches, the largest threshing floor in Cyprus, fifth century A.D. Roman olive oil industrial installations; these are all discovered and rediscovered by Dr. Georgia Bazemore, an Eastern Washington University ancient history and Greek mythology professor and her students on the Greek island of Cyprus.

One of the myths Bazemore teaches in Greek mythology is the goddess of love, Aphrodite, was having an affair with Adonis, god of beauty and desire. Aphrodite’s husband, Hephaestus, god of fire and metalwork, found out about this affair. As a result the next time Aphrodite and Adonis met in secret, Hephaestus caught them both in a giant net and invited people to watch and make fun of them.

After this, it is said that Aphrodite ran away to Adonis’ temple located on the Greek island of Cyprus. This temple was built by refugees from the Trojan War.

The myth may be fictional, but of the temple’s origin is not. “This is not made up theory stories. This is real history,” Bazemore said.

Bazemore traveled to Cyprus to attend archaeological excavations with various groups since 1988, during the process of receiving her Ph.D. in ancient writing. In 1992, she was able to lead her own field school in archaeology, this is the first year she brought students along with her. She then rediscovered Adonis’ temple, which had previously been lost for 25 years.

In 1996, with the help of the University of Indianapolis, where she worked at the time, she led her own excavations in the Rantidi State Forest in Cyprus, where the Adonis temple was found.

Since 1992, Bazemore has been discovering ancient artifacts dating back from 5,000 B.C.E. to the 19th century.

“We have 40,000 to 50,000 artifacts that we found from all of these sights and were in the process of trying to publish them this summer,” Bazemore said.

Since Bazemore discovered all of these artifacts, she is also responsible for documenting them. This responsibility entails placing the artifacts in museums and writing about ancient history.

“There’s nothing more interesting than holding an artifact in your hands,” Bazemore said. “You can see pictures of thousands of bowls but until you actually touch it. It’s just different.”

Driven by a passion for ancient history and archaeology, Bazemore also faces another challenge during her excavations, because these are no regular excavations,

but more like rescue excavations.

According to “Geographical Association” by Desmond Gilmor, a recent tourist development in Cyprus is attempting to build on these sights and after already losing around 70 percent of the Rantidi forest, she is still able to discover the history in the remaining 30 percent in an attempt to save it from being destroyed.

Students have the opportunity to join Bazemore in her travels to Cyprus. It is a summer program that can be paid for through financial aid. The trip this year will contain six trips focusing on a few different historical points, some of them are Stone Age, classical Greece, classical Rome, Crusaders and early Christianity.

Chris Evans, a student who participated in the excavations in Cyprus, counts the experience with Bazemore as one of the best. “I enjoyed every moment that I was there,” he said. “It’s amazing

to be able to be a part in discovering ancient history, I would recommend it to anybody.”

“Digging up something that no one’s ever dug up before, trying to understand how this fits into the whole area of the Middle East, it’s pretty awesome,” Bazemore said. “I mean it’s overwhelming sometimes because I think I may have found some of the oldest iron workings in the whole world.”

Bazemore continues to be driven by the hopes of preserving ancient history that she has been able to be a big part of and invited students to be a part of as well.

“People don’t care about what they’re destroying because it doesn’t mean anything to them,” Evans said. “They don’t realize that what they’re destroying is a part of history.”

“It could have been 100 percent loss,” Bazemore said. “But with me, there was about a 70 percent loss.”

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## 'Pure Grit' remembers lost women in war

By Rebekah Frank  
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Mary Cronk Farrell, author of "Pure Grit," has been deeply touched in her life by the acts of female U.S. Navy nurses who have been lost to history.

On Feb. 26, Farrell stood in the lobby of the JFK Library and told the stories of navy nurses who served during World War II. Farrell's book focuses on those nurses who were taken to Los Baños internment camp after their naval base in Manila, the capitol of the Philippines, was bombed in Dec. 10, 1941.

After the bombing, Japanese soldiers came into Manila and took all allied civilians to Santo Tomas Internment Camp, which was originally a university. After that, they moved the naval nurses and some other prisoners to another internment Los Baños camp.

According to Farrell, her book focuses on 10 of the 78 naval nurses who were in the camp in Los Baños. While those nurses were imprisoned, they set up hospitals in the camp and cared for the sick and wounded. When the conditions of the camp worsened due to lack of food and clothing, the nurses continued to work in the hospitals.

At one point one of the nurses, Lt. Comdr. Margaret Nash, found herself in one of the sick beds of the hospital she worked at due to lack of vitamin B and protein. As soon as Nash was well enough to get back on her feet, she was right back to work. After spending around four years at Los Baños, the prisoners were finally liberated on Feb. 23, 1945.

The courage those nurses had, according to Farrell, was unbelievable. The ability they showed to step up to the plate no matter what was thrown at them showed how much their inner strength grew while serving in the hospitals.

"They weren't born with this courage and resilience, it was forged in the very darkest moments when they were in prison camps, when they didn't know if they would ever go home

or ever see their family and loved ones again. That is where that courage came from, from being in those moments and surviving," said Farrell.

Farrell was inspired by the story of Nash and her fellow nurses and their experiences. "As soon as I heard about the nurses, ... I just wanted to know how they survived," said Farrell.

While Farrell was writing her book, she found the lives of those women so inspiring because of their perseverance after all the horrible things that they had to go through.

"Each one of those women became so dear to me, as if I had really known her. ... They went through something terrible and they did not give up, they somehow found a way to keep going, that is what touched me," said Farrell.

According to Farrell, the stories and courage of those women really helped her during a dark part of her life. They helped show her strength is something you receive through hard trials, not something you are born with.

Manager of EWU Women's Studies Center Carol Vines helped coordinate this event in order to bring the story of those naval nurses who gave so much.

"The Women's Studies center likes to feature things that focus on women. Women in history, women in psychology, particularly women who've been left out," said Vines.

Retired EWU JFK Learning Resources Librarian Nadean Meyer enjoyed the professionalism of Farrell's book. "Her new book is a fine example of using primary sources in an informational book about an interesting, forgotten segment of history," said Meyer.

Farrell believes that there can be many lessons learned from those fallen, and she wants to spread the lessons taught by the naval nurses who served in Los Baños.

"We all have the capacity to be courageous and be resilient, we just need to believe in ourselves and have a purpose in life. ... Go deep inside and find who you are and know what you are capable of," said Farrell.

## Senior sings for scholarship

By Rebekah Frank  
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EWU senior Cody Bray returned to campus from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival in Boise, Idaho, with new experiences, acquaintances and winning the Irene Ryan Scholarship Audition.

The festival took place from Feb. 16-22. The United States is divided up into eight different regions and EWU is part of region seven. Bray, along with about 20 of his fellow Eagles, represented Eastern at the festival.

According to the College Theater website, the festival was established in 1969 to "encourage, recognize and celebrate the finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theater programs, to provide opportunities for participants to develop their theater skills and insight, improve the quality of college and university theater in America and encourage colleges and universities to give distinguished productions of new, the classics, revitalized and experimental works plays."

EWU Theatre Lecturer Jeffrey Sanders described the festival as Disneyland for theater students. According to Sanders, there are a multitude of events taking place that offer a variety of opportunities to students such as scholarships, auditions for professional companies and workshops from professional actors and directors.

EWU seniors Martin Sanks, Alyssa Day and Nichole Meyer were among the 247 college students who competed in the Irene Ryan Scholarship Audition. The audition, according to Sanders, consists of three rounds in which the applicants have to present two scenes as well as a monologue and/or song.

Out of the 247 original applicants, Sanks, Day and Meyer were all finalists with their partners. This accomplishment is one of prestigious pride for the EWU Theatre Department.

"EWU can be proud to boast that it had three pairs of students make it to semis and to finals, a feat never been accomplished before," said Sanks.

In addition to that, Bray and Sanks were both finalists in the Musical Theater Scholarship. Out of 147 contestants, Bray and Sanks made it to the final round, and Bray was selected along with a student from the University of Idaho as winners. After winning this



Cody Bray and Martin Sanks attended the College Theater Festival on Feb. 16-22.

prestigious award, Bray was invited to sing at the final ceremony.

In addition to the \$250 scholarship, Bray was given "The Singing Actors Guide to Musical Theatre," a book not yet published, and the author is dedicating the book to Bray, as well as the co-winner and the runner-up of the MTSA.

Sanders said that Eastern has attracted many possible future Eagles based on the success of its theater

department at this festival, even with its small size. "I think our program is the little engine that could," said Sanders.

This was the EWU Theatre Program's third year visiting the festival and their success is noted by many in the theater department. "It's an exciting thing to see our students excel there," said Sanders.

"I recommend going to it to anybody who is interested at all in theater," said Meyer.

## EAGLE LIFE



Lucy Wu, Tim Du, Andy Lin and Kevin Jin discuss ideas for the event they are hosting March 7.

## International students showcase their talents with campus event

By Kailee Dunn

STAFF WRITER  
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Many EWU students are unaware of the musical talent located amongst the students of the International Student Association at Eastern.

On March 7, the ISA will host an entertainment show in the PUB Fireside Lounge at 2 p.m.

ISA President Lucy Wu said that two students from the club will be performing.

First to perform is senior Khalid Alreshaid, who is originally from Saudi Arabia. He will be playing the guitar and singing covers of James Blunt songs like "You're Beautiful," "Heart to Heart" and "Stay the Night," in addition to some original songs he wrote.

"In summer 2005, I bought my first guitar and learned by myself. I'm not really sure how actually," Alreshaid said.

Recently, Alreshaid released his first album on iTunes titled, "I'll Be There."

While most of his music is based around romance, he also divulged that he writes music about his younger brother, whom he only gets to see every two years because his brother is in Saudi Arabia.

The second performer is senior Ivy Choi, who is from Hong Kong.

"I am going to play piano, and I am going to play classical music," Choi said.

According to their website, the EWU International Student Association is a club which offers cultural education and social interaction for both international and American students.

"The club right now is pretty diverse. We have students here from Hong Kong, we have Japanese students, students from Taiwan, Saudi Arabia and America," Wu said.

Noriko Sunada, secretary of the ISA, explained that all students are invited to join the club.

"It gives a lot of students a [different] perspective from outside the United States," said Sunada.

Wu said right now they have around eight to 10 members since the club was reactivated this year.

"ISA was kind of a big deal a few years ago, but since the last president graduated, we kind of disappeared for a while," said Wu. "So, we just kind of started up [again]."

The ISA meets Fridays at 1 p.m. in Hargreaves 119.

For more information on getting involved with the ISA, visit their Facebook page at EWU International Student Association or email them at isa@eagles.ewu.edu.

"[The event] is kind of like a promotion for our club. We want to share music and share something fun and then share some information about us," Sunada said.

## Sustainability Symposium starts something green

By Kailee Dunn

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For a growing amount of people, green is more than just a color, it is a way of life.

On Feb. 25, the first Sustainability Symposium was presented by EWU Dining Services Sustainability Initiatives and held in the PUB MPR.

Kelsey Crane, who planned the event, is the former president of the Sustainability Project and now holds the position of Administrative Assistant for Sustainability Initiatives.

"The purpose of the symposium is to bring together the community, faculty, staff and students to create awareness about what is happening on campus and throughout the community surrounding sustainability and prioritize education and adaptation," Crane said.

Vice president for business and finance Mary Voves gave the opening remarks.

"It was exciting to have EWU's administration speaking out about sustainability, showing the community that it's important to us," said Crane.

Following the opening remarks, attendees took part in breakout sessions, during which they were able to participate in discussing topics like water law, the new economy and waste bio-refinery.

The first keynote speaker, Gloria Flora, presented a lecture on "designing our future." Flora, was rated one of the Nations Top Environmentalists by Vanity Fair in 2004.

While Flora presented, lunch was served free of charge.

According to Crane, all of the items on the menu, including rustic beef and vegetable stew, Pacific Northwest lentil soup and fresh slaw, were all grown locally and sourced seasonally.

Joining Flora on the main stage were many other distinguished environmentalists, including Spokane's City Council President Ben Stuckart.

Stuckart is a founding member of the local non-profit known as Pedals2People.

"In 2005, five of us saw the need for a bicycle non-profit that benefited everyone, not just those that could afford new bikes," Stuckart said.

According to the Pedals2People website, their mission is to empower people by using bicycles as a tool and to help build a healthier community. The non-profit is a self-service bike shop and resource center.

Stuckart focused on three main points when he spoke: local food, coal trains and resilient neighborhoods.

In addition to the speakers, the symposium also offered free henna tattoos, sample snacks from Boots Bakery and Lounge in Spokane, samples of coffee courtesy of Roast House Coffee in Spokane, Protein Pucks, sustainably sourced tea from Two Leaves and Choice Organics and the musical stylings of Mikkelsen and Madeline McNeill.

The Office of Community Engagement and members of the Sustainability Project ran the check-in table, where they were raffling off a new

bike and long board, with all proceeds benefitting the EWU Community Garden located behind the Red Barn off Washington and Seventh Street.

Siobhan Doughtry, an employee with the Office of Community Engagement, admitted that she was not sure what the event was really about at first but had a change of heart after learning more about sustainability on campus.

"Now I want to join the Sustainability Project," Doughtry said.

Secretary of the Sustainability Project Olivia Fox said, for her, sustainability is something that has always been a part of her life.

"It's a big family affair," said Fox. "My favorite part is going to schools and talking to the kids about how they can be sustainable. I feel like I'm brainwashing them in a good way."

"The most important thing is that we realize that we are all interconnected and on one same team," Crane said. "By getting educated on sustainability, working together and taking local action, we are voting for a healthy, fair and strong future."

For more information about getting involved with the Sustainability Project, visit:

www.sustainable-ewu.org.

## DRAG: CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Next, he would use some natural tones to give him scruffier looking side burns. Finally, he would paint in his beard with distinct strokes to make it look cleanly trimmed.

The princesses of drag have a little more work cut out for them with their makeup. The other screen showed one of the princesses getting her face ready for the show. She began with a foundation which consisted of two shades of cover up to bring out the cheekbones with a bronzer.

Next, she did her eyes, which depending on the performer, can consist of many shades of eyeshadow. Then, they put on fake eyelashes and lip gloss and/or lipstick with long, even smooth strokes to give their lips a full look.

"We like to have two hours. Some of [the performers] take even longer. Felony likes four [hours]," said Kaine.

These performers put a lot of effort into their look. When they are done accessorizing with earrings, necklaces, bracelets and shoes, the performers are ready for the stage.

During the drag show, members of Kaine's cast, "Le Gurlz," danced and lip-synced to the song of their choice. According to Kaine, the performers choose their own songs that best expresses who they are as a performer.

The crowd cheered and clapped for every one of "Le Gurlz," as well as some members from the EWU fraternity Delta Chi who were a part of the drag show. The members of the Delta Chi were brought forward during the workshop and were glamorized by some of the members of "Le Gurlz."

During the show, the Delta Chi members performed their own acts as they were dressed in everything ranging from tutus to Daisy Duke cutoffs. "Le Gurlz" outdid themselves with each member of the Delta Chi looking fabulous.

## Diverse flavors reside in PUB

By Shawntelle Moncy

CONTRIBUTING WRITER  
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Alaa-eldin Aamer, owner of Aladdin's Egyptian Food in the PUB, has seen a good chunk of the world peppered with stories of his experiences.

Aamer was born in 1952 in Egypt by the North Delta Nile and learned to cook from his mother. "Every country has it's own flavor," he said.

He graduated from Cairo University in 1975 with a degree in sociology and philosophy. According to Aamer, he broke the record for the high jump in college during his sophomore year with a jump of 192 inches, the best in Egypt at that time.

"Egypt was the best time of my life," Aamer said. Being involved with athletics and traveling to compete were a couple of his favorite things about living in Egypt.

After graduating, he traveled to various places to work. First he traveled to London, where he worked at KFC for a year. Anything counted as long as he was able to travel and make money at the same time. In 1976, he traveled to Libya to work as a social worker. Then, he went to Algeria in 1977 to work as a high school philosophy teacher. According to Aamer, no teaching certificate was required as long as he had a degree in what he was teaching. A year later, he went to Austria and participated in marketing real estate and learned German on the side.

"I like to travel," Aamer said. "You have to educate yourself of the area you're in, you have to know the culture." During these years, he saved most of his money to continue his education in the United States.

In 1979, Aamer met his wife, an American, while he was in France traveling. Just a few short months afterwards, he and his wife moved to America to her hometown of Spokane.

"Meeting my wife was an amazing day and will always be in my memory," he said. In 1990, Aamer's wife died of Hodgkin's disease. A piece of her still remains

With each act, members of the audience would tip the performers. All proceeds from the tips and the tickets went to the Spokane AIDS Network. According to the Eagle Entertainment Facebook page, the total amount raised reached \$3,417.

A lot of work goes into making this show possible. All the outfits must be made according to the performers and their song choice. One performer wore an extravagant outfit that, when she took her cloak off, had a cape behind her that was shaped like butterfly wings. This outfit went hand-in-hand with the song, "Wings" by Little Mix.

According to Kaine, the preparation for this show started in November when Eagle Entertainment contacted her with the idea. After winter break, Kaine began coordinating her girls to see which ones would be available.

On the day of the show, Kaine says she and "Le Gurlz" arrived at noon. They did a soundcheck, began working on their faces at 2 p.m., did the seminar at 4 p.m., went back to the dressing room to finish their makeup and hit the stage at 7 p.m.

"I love all the work that they put into it," said Harwood.

Kaine said she has been coming to EWU for the drag show for six years and has been performing in drag since 1987. She had her name passed down to her, and she is the sixth Nova Kaine in the drag show.

Kaine said that Blowme Bubbles, one of the drag show queens, has been doing the drag show at EWU for about 10 years.

This event was fun for everyone in attendance, evident by the constant applauding. Williams said the show was great fun and for a great cause.

"The drag show is supposed to help make this campus safer and more welcoming for LGBT students, and so it's the education piece that makes the campus a better campus for everybody," said Williams.

"I love it. It is my favorite Eagle Entertainment event," said Harwood.



Alaa-eldin Aamer cooks up exotic food.

in his life embodied in his two daughters who both graduated from EWU.

Aamer wants to travel with his daughters in the future and give them a chance see and learn what he had the chance to.

When Aamer returned to America, he attended Spokane Falls Community College to complete the general education requirements the United States required. Egypt's higher education is different than the U.S. mainly because higher education tuition in Egypt is paid by the state which was a result of the July 23, 1952 revolution. Aamer only had to pay for food, books and housing.

After he finished the general education requirements, Aamer continued his education at EWU for a degree in graphic communication and photography.

Through his years at Eastern, Aamer regrets only one thing: not participating in Eastern's track team. However, he needed to work through college to afford an education. Aamer wanted to pursue a degree in physical education, but he needed to begin working for money. After graduating, he started his

Egyptian food business at Eastern in 1985. Ten years after, he started working at the Airway Heights Corrections Center helping Muslim inmates. He still continues that part-time job today.

Students that have purchased food from Aladdin's Egyptian Food seem to find him quite the character. "He seems like a really personable guy, he's always in a good mood," said Samantha Sarrett, a freshman at EWU.

"I like how he plays Egyptian music at his stand," said Ricky Cuellar, a Sophomore at EWU. "It kind of shows that he's proud of his culture and wants to show it."

During the summer, he travels to Nice, France to work as a lifeguard while there is no work at the university.

Although Aamer does not use all of his degrees with his job today, he enjoys being able to cook food from his country and share it with people. With his food stand, he makes the equivalent to a majority of the jobs he could get with one of his degrees.

Aamer said he may not have had a dollar in his pocket but "you work and you go."

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## Have you done a cool volunteer project lately?

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# Gym germs generate concern over hygeine

By Nicole Ruse  
COPY EDITOR  
nicoleruse@live.com

If you work out at the URC Fitness Center at Eastern, you may be picking up more than your average hand weight while exercising. Germs and viruses are right at your fingertips. They cannot be seen, but they are there.

More needs to be done by users of the URC Fitness Center to ensure that the machines and exercise equipment get properly cleaned after their intended use.

According to Fitness Magazine, norovirus can survive for a month on the surface of exercise machines, which can cause stomach pain, diarrhea and vomiting. Many foot infections are caught in the showers of locker rooms at the gym mostly if the proper sandals aren't worn.

Microbes such as methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus, also known as MRSA, is also a common bacteria found in gym showers and on fitness equipment the hot spots for germs at the gym are free weights, weight machines and exercise balls.

Students who also use exercise mats for yoga poses or simply to stretch before a hard cardio workout could be laying in a slew of microbes that can cause skin infections, athlete's foot and hepatitis A.

On multiple accounts, I have witnessed people at the gym who are working out really hard, whether it is on an elliptical or a treadmill. They are sweating every last drop onto the machine they're using, only to finish their workout and casually walk away without even wiping it down.

My semi-germaphobe instincts kick in, and I suddenly want to hunt that person down and tell them to wipe down their machine. The more people who use the equipment, the more germs it likely has on it. If one person doesn't wipe down their machine, and the person after them barely wipes it down, those germs live on that machine and grow.

In addition, a study published in the Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine found that 63 percent of machines that had been disinfected still had traces of rhinovirus, which causes the common cold, as well as staph, fungi and yeast on gym bike seats.

By simply washing your hands before and after you work out, as well as wiping down your machine thoroughly with an anti-bacterial

## TIPS TO STAY GERM FREE AT THE GYM



Graphic by Kyle Pearson

spray and cloth — which the fitness center provides — you're stopping nasty germs and viruses from spreading.

Furthermore, it shouldn't be the job of the URC Fitness instructors or workers to have to clean up the machines after they're used. The same goes with janitors: they aren't there to clean up after you; they are there to assist you.

Germs even live on the water bottle you use at the gym. According to Fitness Magazine, when you take a sip of water during your workout, germs move into your bottle and quickly reproduce from the rim. Thousands of bacteria can reside at the bottom. Using the water bottle

after just a few days of not washing it can be the equivalent of drinking from a public swimming pool. Thoroughly cleaning your water bottle with soap and water after a gym session is vital.

Doing these simple tasks at the gym will make the fitness center a cleaner and happier place. The more people who clean up after themselves at the gym, the less likely germs will be there. And fewer people, like me, will be grossed out.

There's another gym etiquette topic that needs to be discussed: cellphones. Do I really have to mention this? Yes, because there are signs all over the fitness center for the same

reason I'm about to give: Cellphones are a distraction. They are annoying when I am trying to politely ask you to scoot over for the runners on the indoor track, but you cannot hear me because you're talking to your friend on the phone.

Please use the gym to work out and get healthy, not to socialize extensively. I am totally for going to the gym with friends who are there to push you to work hard, yet texting while walking the indoor track is bothersome.

Turn off your cellphone and put it in a locker downstairs. Your phone calls, voicemails and texts aren't going anywhere.

## DREAM: CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"I always believed in helping students."

Now, as ASEWU vice president, he is happy to see that students, like himself, can receive the same financial aid benefits as their peers.

"Not only are they going to benefit from the opportunity of going to college, but the state is going to benefit from it," Navarro said. "That means a lot more revenue from the state in taxes. It means educated citizens."

Calderon said she has been fighting for this bill since she was a freshman undergraduate. She said she could not believe it when she heard it was finally passed.

"It's so surreal,"

Calderon said. "It's amazing our state is being so supportive of us."

Calderon moved to Mattawa, Wash., when she was 3 years old and grew up picking cherries and cutting asparagus before going to EWU. She is looking forward to immigrants who grew up in the state, like herself, to be offered a greater opportunity at higher education.

Navarro says the bill will prevent many students from dropping out, like he was forced to.

"Children who were brought here at a very young age, through no fault of their own, they were brought here through the circumstances of their parents," Navarro said. "They deserve an opportunity to go to college."

# Exotic animal care bites

By Elsa Schmitz  
OPINION EDITOR  
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Recently, I took a trip with my fiancé to Cat Tales Zoo just outside of North Spokane because he has a thing for big cats, and I wanted to surprise him with a chance to feed some treats to a lion or a tiger.

While we were there, our guide led us around the small zoo, talking about each animal in the enclosures. There were a myriad of animals, including two black bears and three siberian white tigers, but what caught my attention was the number of bobcats that were housed within the zoo. Each of the cats had their own story, their own journey, that led to their new home at the zoo.

One of the stories that was told was how someone in King County, Wash., had attempted to pass their bobcat off as an animal that detected seizures.

Washington state has fairly moderate laws regarding exotic pets when compared to other states, but most "big" cats are illegal to own. According to legislation found on Born Free USA's website, "only lions, tigers, captive-bred cougars, jaguars, cheetahs, leopards, snow leopards and clouded leopards," are considered "potentially dangerous wild animals." Each county within Washington state is able to create more restrictive legislation than those put forth on the website.

If people can't seem to take care of typical domesticated animals, then why should they be entrusted with the care of an exotic pet?

I often see kittens and cats, that have been abandoned, eating from the dumpster at our apartment complex. I worry when students adopt or buy dogs, especially since it is difficult to make sure they are allowing their pet enough exercise within their busy schedules.

A lot of my friends view exotic pets like turtles and hedgehogs as adorable little creatures that need no more attention than the average gerbil. However, in order to take proper care of an exotic animal, one should be well-versed in what it exactly means to own and care for that creature.

For example, I would love to own an F1 savannah cat. F1 savannah cats came to be when someone decided to cross-breed



Illustration by Elsa Schmitz

Many people underestimate the time and care exotic animals require.

a domestic cat with a serval, a medium-sized African wild cat. These cats are similar in size to a small dog and are very close relatives to wild cats found in Africa.

While it would be completely awesome to own one of these cats, it would also take a lot of time, attention and money in order to provide the best living conditions. These cats require specialized foods, lots of exercise and regular veterinary visits.

I know myself well enough to know that this is not the right time for me to own an exotic animal as a pet.

I would hope that those of you who are considering getting yourself a furry — or not — friend keep in mind the time and attention to detail it takes to own a pet, exotic or otherwise.

Would you want to own an exotic pet? Tweet us @Easterner\_Op

(Why isn't your ad here?)

Danielle Matthews  
advertising manager  
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# OPINION

# Easterner Asks

"What would you incorporate into campus to make it more inviting for all people?"



"Something to connect the commuter students to the rest of campus."

Katie Rouso



"More indoor activities during the winter for everyone to do."

Mike Cardenas



"More hours of operation and more advertising for events even though we have good events. More honesty between people."

George Li



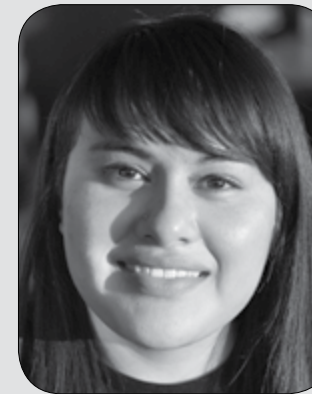
"More parking."

Reanne Lee



"More diversity-themed events."

Christina Sosa Lara



Question for next week: "How do you relax for finals?"

# US diet boils in chemicals

## Various preservatives found in many nonedible products

By Shawntelle Moncy  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER  
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It's generally accepted that the United States doesn't have the best eating habits of the world. But it's not just the unhealthy eating habits of Americans, it has to do with the food itself.

Food tastes different in every country, but the extent the U.S. has taken to preserve its product to last to its fullest capability has caused food to be extremely unhealthy.

"America has lost the meaning of fresh meat and vegetables," said Dr. Georgia Bazemore, a professor at EWU involved in global studies in Greece.

Maybe it's the population of America. Organic crops are expensive. Or maybe it's because of how much hard labor it takes to grow organic crops, but either way, chemicals seem to have become just another ingredient in America's food.

In fact, some chemicals used in foods in the United States have been banned in other countries because of how unhealthy they are. In Singapore, according to "Revealed: Shocking list of popular foods and drinks readily available in U.S. grocery stores that are banned in other countries because their chemicals are deemed dangerous," you can be sentenced to 15 years in prison and charged a \$500,000 fine for using a chemical in food products that's commonly found in frozen dinners in

America. This chemical is called azodicarbomideand, and it is also used in things like bleach and rubber yoga mats.

Mountain Dew and products used to keep carpets from catching on fire are made from the same chemical, which is brominated vegetable oil. Chemicals found in Chex Mix, butylated hydroxyanisole and butylated hydroxytoluene, are waxy solids made from petroleum and known to cause cancer in rats.

Many food colorings are also banned from various countries. According to a ABC News article "Eleven Food Ingredients Banned Outside The U.S. That We Eat," "yellow No. 5 is banned in Norway and Austria due to the compounds of benzidine and 4-aminobiphenyl. 'Six of the 11 studies on yellow No. 5 showed that it caused genotoxicity, a deterioration of the cell's genetic material with potential to mutate healthy DNA' the book, 'Rich Foods, Poor Foods,' states."

These types of ingredients are listed at the bottom of every ingredients list, maybe in the hope that it will go unnoticed because it is written too small to actually read with no explanation of what the ingredient actually is. Ingredients that the average human being cannot even pronounce can't be good for anybody.

These are all simple, everyday foods in America. Many Americans eat these foods regularly, but it's about time Americans look into nutrition instead of prescribed drugs as a solution for illnesses.

It doesn't take much to notice that there are chemicals in foods in the U.S.; Americans are just so used to it that it goes by unnoticed. However, many

visitors to the U.S. may notice food that is produced here tastes different from food from their home country. "You can even tell that the fruit has been modified because I'm so used [to] the organic fruits," said Addisu Weldegiorgis, an EWU international student from Ethiopia.

So is it just the chemicals in America's food? Or is it the proportions of which we eat our food? Well, according to Bazemore, she watched a student lose several pant sizes while being in Cyprus, Greece for the summer. Yet, he had not eaten any less than he had in the United States. If anything, he ate more.

"I had a large student come to Cyprus with me, and he brought the smallest pants that he had," Bazemore said. "And by the end of the summer, those pants were falling off of him. And there was no diet involved."

"Everything there is fresh and organic," Bazemore said. "You don't eat meat if it's more than six hours old."

With the population the United States has, only eating meat less than six hours old seems impossible. But, with the technology we have developed, we can find a better way to preserve foods other than with chemicals. We could live without them and possibly extend our average life span. Sure, it may not be easy, but there is no question about the importance of healthy food sources.

The sooner Americans realize which chemicals we are actually putting into our bodies and choose to eat healthier, the sooner fewer illnesses will occur due to poor eating habits.

## THE EASTERNER

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Elsa Schmitz  
OPINION EDITOR  
easterner.opinion@gmail.com

#### Requirements

- Letters should be 300 words or less and typed, or legibly handwritten.
- Include your full name, signature, telephone number and email address for verification.
- We reserve the right not to publish letters; furthermore, all letters are subject to editing.
- Letters must be received no later than Monday at 10 a.m. in order to be considered for publication the following Wednesday.
- If your letter is in response to a specific article, please list the title and date of the article.

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We encourage the campus community to submit letters and opinion pieces that conform to the requirements listed above. Opinion articles and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Easterner, its staff members or Eastern Washington University.



Police Beat

By Cheyenne Dunham  
NEWS EDITOR  
easterner.news@gmail.com

**Feb. 24**  
**10:41 a.m.**  
**Medical response**  
Police responded to a medical call at Martin Hall where a female student suffered a seizure. The student was transported to the hospital for observation.

**2:40 p.m.**  
**Collision**  
Police investigated an accident between a university vehicle and a civilian vehicle. Minor damages occurred.

**11 p.m.**  
**Arrest**  
A non-student male was arrested for having a suspended license at the 900 block of West Elm Street.

**Feb. 26**  
**11:02 a.m.**  
**Assault**  
Police responded to a report of domestic violence at the townhouses in Cheney. A female student reported being assaulted by an ex-boyfriend.

**2:30 p.m.**  
**Theft**  
A male student reported a backpack stolen from the men’s locker room in the URC.

**3 p.m.**  
**Theft**  
A male student reported a wallet stolen from the men’s locker room in the URC.

**Feb. 27**  
**9:10 a.m.**  
**Suspicious person**  
Following a national alert asking individuals to report sightings of a missing fugitive, a suspicious person was reported near the campus daycare at the corner of Washington and Seventh Street. Multiple sightings of the suspect occurred over two days, but upon further investigation, the individual was not found to be a threat.

**4:51 p.m.**  
**Hit and run**  
A female student reported that someone had hit her parked car while it was either in lot 12 or lot 3. No immediate suspect was found.

PROFESSOR:  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

When asked the difference between nationalism and patriotism, Sharifi said nationalism is the necessary foundation for the production of patriotism. However, patriotism involves a greater sense of pride in one’s country.

“Nationalism is the political connection that makes millions of people, who do not otherwise know each other personally, see themselves as a people with a collective sense history, destiny and national interest,” Sharifi said.

Kristin Edquist, another EWU government professor and director of international affairs, applauded the way Sharifi explained this issue.

According to her, Sharifi’s expertise comes more from his scholarly work than his childhood in Iran.

“He’s not really coming at it from the perspective of someone who wasn’t raised in the U.S.,” Edquist said. “He’s coming at it from a scholarly perspective.”

She said Sharifi is not trying to solve the problems in Iran. Instead, he is redefining what the problem is.

It is easy for Americans to characterize Iranian people by their political leaders they see on TV, and Edquist said this is a profound misunderstanding of the population.

“The nation, really, is in a lot of ways alienated from the governing bodies,” Edquist said.

Edquist is working with Sharifi, along with Vandana Asthana, who is also a gov-

ernment professor at Eastern, on a book examining insecurity in the Persian Gulf and Southeast Asian states.

“He adds a lot of vibrancy to the intellectual community here,” Edquist said about Sharifi.

Additionally, when she teaches students about Iran, she stresses how modern the country is in many ways. Students are frequently surprised to learn that there are women politicians who have a strong role in Iranian politics.

Part of Sharifi misses the Iranian culture. But whenever he visits, whether he is at a speaking event or he is traveling, he cannot help but notice similarities the people living across the world have with Americans.

“It’s amazing how close we are,” he said.

CENTRAL:  
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Richardson and Saldana were then detained by Central Park Police and taken in for interrogation. Later the police brought in McCray. The police sought out several other members of the group including Salaam. Wise had bumped into Salaam prior to the cops detaining him and despite not being a suspect on the police’s list was brought in for questioning.

The five individuals ranging from 14-16 years old, were held for periods of 24 to 36 hours in the interrogation room. Salaam explained the tone of the interrogations was scary and intimidating. All five individuals were convinced to give verbal confessions stating that they were involved in the rape of Meili. All but Salaam also gave signed written confessions.

Angela Black, Kevin McCray’s sister, said, “It was like [the police] orchestrated the whole thing.”

Despite the discrepancies in the details of the confessions, along with the fact that no DNA evidence matched any of the five, prosecution was pursued. Donald Trump even pushed for the return of the death penalty to New York state so that it might be sentenced on the oldest suspect, Wise.

Saldana, McCray and Salaam were the first to go to trial receiving a verdict of guilty based on their confessions and received the maximum juvenile sentence of five to 10 years. Next were Wise and Richardson. Wise, being 16 at the time of the crime, was sentenced as an adult receiving five to 15 years in an adult prison, while Richardson was sentenced as a juvenile receiving five to 10 years.

After serving seven years, McCray, Salaam, Richardson and Saldana were

“It was like [the police] orchestrated the whole thing.”  
Angela Black

Today, there is still an ongoing lawsuit by the five against the city of New York for retribution on their wrongful conviction. The lawsuit has been going on since 2003 without resolve.

Brackett explained this was an important topic to bring to campus because it is important to look outside of your community and see the difficulty, turmoil and problematic system black males are in.

According the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, African-Americans are incarcerated at almost six times the rate of whites.

Brackett continued to explain that it is important to know your rights. If a student on campus were to get in trouble and berated with charges they should know what they have a right to.

**March 1**  
**1:25 a.m.**  
**Potential fight**  
Police responded to a potential fight in progress in Dressler Hall. The dispute turned out to only be verbal and was not physical.

**3:31 a.m.**  
**Agency assist**  
A report of sexual assault was made by two female students. The incidents had occurred off campus and after further investigation, the case was turned over to the Cheney Police.

**10:29 a.m.**  
**Agency assist**  
An investigation was carried out into a report of the possible harassment of a female student in the townhouses.

**March 2**  
**11:34 a.m.**  
**DUI**  
A male student was stopped and arrested for driving under the influence in front of Brewster Hall.

**1:13 p.m.**  
**Public disturbance**  
Police responded to a disturbance in the PUB. A non-student female was reported to be under the influence of methamphetamine. She was checked by Cheney fire and transported to the hospital.



Graphic by Elsa Schmitz  
A male student reported a wallet stolen from the men’s locker room in the URC.

**Tip of the Week:**

Be careful who you share your information with and how much information you share, especially online. If you get in an uncomfortable situation, conversation, or find yourself being harassed, do not hesitate to tell someone and get help.

OUTAGE:  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

The power came back on in the rest of the city as soon as the transmission feed was fixed but was not restored on campus until after 6 p.m.

With night falling and the campus looking like a ghost town with no lights, Opsal came back to EWU from his home 45 minutes away.

Cheney has two main electrical feeds citywide. According to Opsal, if you lose one feed, the electrical system at Eastern can restart itself automatically. If both feeds are lost, it requires a manual reset, which was the cause of the delay in getting power restored to campus.

“This is a built-in safety feature,” Opsal said. “We don’t want to close

the switches without knowing exactly what’s going on.”

The electrical system at EWU runs through a complex overcurrent relay system, which needs to be precisely calculated and engineered to work properly. As the campus grows, the system grows with it, and according to Opsal, it needs to be updated.

“It’s 12 years old, and it needs to be renewed,” Opsal said. “Stuff like this doesn’t happen a lot, but now it’s happened twice in six weeks, and I don’t know why.”

Noland said Opsal called him the next day, and they plan to meet soon to check the settings in the campus switch room. This means the next time an outage strikes, power can be restored to campus more quickly.

“Really, it’s about the safety of the students,” Opsal said. “The university is looking into it.”

THE EASTERNER

**Address:**  
The Easterner  
EWU, Isle Hall 102  
Cheney, WA 99004

**About your paper:**  
All content in The Easterner is either produced or chosen by EWU students. Our goal is to provide relevant information to the students, faculty, staff and residents of the communities surrounding EWU.

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The Easterner is open for any EWU student or faculty who wish to write or copy edit news stories.  
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• Copy editing meetings are Saturdays at 9 a.m.

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**POLICE BEAT ILLUSTRATOR**  
Jessie Corigliano

Women soar and fall in final home games

Eastern hosts Northern Colorado and North Dakota in a fight to the finish

By Elohino Theodore  
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The women’s basketball team finished their last two home games of the regular season on Feb. 27 and March 1.

The Eagles competed against the Northern Colorado Bears on Feb. 27, where they won 67-61.

“We rebounded better that game, and we really finished strong with free throws,” senior guard Aubrey Ashenfelter said. “That’s basically what won us the game is we came in clutch with our free throws in the end.”

At the 9:30 mark in the first half, they took their first lead. Eastern led for most of the night, and the Eagles were up by as much as 13 points in the first half. EWU locked down on defense, and as a result Northern Colorado shot only 30.8 percent.

“We all bought into our system, and [we] made sure we rebounded and played good defense,” redshirt junior Lexie Nelson said. “We still kind of struggled in that game to score as well.”

Freshman guard Jade Redmon scored the first points of the second half to give Eastern their largest lead of the night. Northern Colorado continued to hang around and stay in the game. With 14 minutes left in the second half, the Bears cut the Eagles’ lead to seven.

Redshirt sophomore Hayley Hodgins converted on two free throws to give Eastern a nine-point lead. Northern



Photo by Karissa Berg  
Junior forward Melissa Williams fights for the ball against Northern Colorado during the game on Feb. 27.

ern Colorado came back with another run to cut the Eagles’ lead to three. However, the Bears would not get the upper hand as Eastern pulled away for the win.

The Eagles shot 43.8 percent for the game and tied Northern Colorado in the assists category, 14-14. Eastern had gained 13 points from turnovers and outscored the Bears’ bench,

18-15. Eastern also had nine fast break points compared to NCU’s two fast break points.

Ashenfelter finished with 16 points, four rebounds, four assists and two blocks. Nelson contributed 12 points. Redmon and freshman guard Bethany Montgomery added 10 points each.

On March 1, Eastern competed against North

Dakota, where they fell to UND, 61-57.

“I think we played hard as a team. It was a hard-fought game. I mean, North Dakota is a good team as well,” Nelson said. “We just need to find a way to score the ball a little bit more.”

North Dakota went 9-of-14 in the first 11 minutes of the first half. The Eagles only made two of

their 17 shots. With 7:54 left to play in the first half, Eastern went on a 7-0 run to cut North Dakota’s lead.

With 4:54 left in the first half, Montgomery scored a 3-pointer and Hodgins scored a layup to bring EWU to within five. Later on, junior forward Melissa Williams went on the foul line to make two free throws to cut UND’s lead to two

points. However, North Dakota scored at the buzzer to lead by four points at halftime.

In the beginning of the second half, Eastern took their first lead from a 3-pointer by Nelson. UND fought back with a 10-0 run to lead by nine points. For six minutes, EWU sprinted to get back into the game. At the 6:01 mark, the Eagles would lead by one point, 53-52.

With 3:22 left in the game, Hodgins and senior center Laura Hughes each scored to give EWU a three-point lead. After that, Eastern went on a scoring drought and North Dakota went on a 7-0 run to win. North Dakota shot 44.7 percent compared to Eastern’s 38.2 shooting percentage, and Eastern was out rebounded 37-27.

Hodgins finished with 14 points, five rebounds, three steals and two blocks in the game. Nelson contributed with 12 points, and Hughes finished with 10 points and five rebounds. Ashenfelter had four rebounds, two assists and two blocks. Redmon chipped in with five assists and Williams contributed with four points and six rebounds.

The Eagles are preparing for their last two games of the regular season. “We’re working on just basically defending. Right now we’re focusing on Idaho State,” Ashenfelter said. The Eagles will compete on the road against Idaho State on March 6.

EWU track and field concludes indoor championships

By Erika Meyer  
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Eastern concluded the indoor track and field season on March 1. Though they fought their hardest, the Eagles could not speed up to first place.

The men’s team finished fifth overall with 56 points, which tied them with Weber State University.

“Championships come with highs and lows, and that was no different today,” said men’s head coach Stan Kerr.

The EWU men started out the meet strong with their weight throwers.

After finishing second a year ago, junior Jordan Arakawa earned his first conference title with a toss of 65-8 3/4. Eastern went on to sweep the event, as senior Zach Nielsen placed second with 63-9 1/2 and senior Jon Buchanan finished third with 63-5 1/2. Nielsen and Buchanan peaked with personal best records.

This is the second time in EWU history that the men were able to sweep the event; the last time Eastern was able to do so was in 2005.

“Our throwers came in with poise and put on an outstanding show at this meet,” Kerr said.

In the shot put, Buchanan found himself on the podium again earning All Conference after he finished second with a personal best throw of 58-5 1/4. That toss places him second in school history.

“Jon [Buchanan] had a sensational weekend for us and capped it with a lifetime best performance that put

another medal around his neck,” Kerr said.

Also earning his way to the podium was freshman Trenton Osborn. He finished second in the long jump with a jump of 23-3 1/4. Junior Phil Puccino earned points for the Eagles as he finished seventh in the event.

Junior Brad Michael finished third in the 400 meter-dash, with a running time of 48.25. This is the fifth time Michael has earned All Big Sky Conference honors. Freshman Austin Upmeyer placed seventh in the event with a running time of 50.58, earning points for the Eagles.

Michael, Upmeyer, senior Collin Green and senior Kramer Green placed fourth in the 4x400 relay with a running time of 3:17.23.

The men improved, earning fifth place after being predicted to finish sixth in the pre-season coaches poll.

The women also improved in the pre-season poll by one. The Eagle women finished eighth overall with a score of 40 points, finishing behind Montana State University.

“Placing eighth as a team is not where we wanted to finish in the Big Sky, but kudos to the athletes who competed,” said women’s head coach Marcia Mecklenburg.

Senior Keisa Monterola competed in her last Big Sky Championship and claimed her fourth career title in the pole vault, clearing a height of 13-5 1/4. Freshman Courtney Bray earned points for the Eagles, as she placed fourth with a jump of 12-10.

“I know [Monterola] wanted to vault higher, but I

TRACK AND FIELD  
INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP RECAP

MEN'S TEAM FINISHED  
FIFTH OVERALL  
WITH 56 POINTS

WOMEN'S TEAM FINISHED  
EIGHTH OVERALL  
WITH 40 POINTS

HIGHLIGHTS

EASTERN EARNED SEVEN ALL CONFERENCE MEMBERS  
TO CONCLUDE THE INDOOR SEASON.

NEW RECORD  
REBUILT  
TRIPLE JUMP

FIRST PLACE JORDAN ARAKAWA 65-8 3/4

SECOND PLACE ZACH NIELSEN 63-9 1/2

THIRD PLACE JON BUCHANAN 63-5 1/2

Graphic by Kyle Pearson

am excited that she came out on top,” said Mecklenburg.

In the women’s 5,000-meters, junior Berenice Penaloza ran a time of 17:54.98 to place fifth, sophomore Sarah Reiter, finished with a time of 17:56.99, placed sixth and junior Junior Catie Arri-

goni finished seventh with running a time of 17:57.24.

Reiter also finished seventh in the 3,000-meters with a running time of 10:20.81.

Freshman Paula Gil-Echevarria placed eighth in the mile with a time of 5:00.50.

“Our women’s distance crew ran a strategic race, and

it paid off,” said Mecklenburg.

In the women’s weight throw, junior Emma Murillo placed fourth with a toss of 59-1 1/4, senior Vania Tauvela placed fifth with 58-10 1/4 and junior Olivia Midles placed eighth with 54-4. Murillo and Tauvela hit personal best records.

In the triple jump, Morena Mannucci leaped 38-9.

Eastern earned seven all conference members to conclude the indoor season.

“I felt our team rose above unexpected adversity and finished higher than the pre-season rankings,” Kerr said.





# Student-athletes and athletic department serve the community

By Elohino Theodore  
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For EWU athletes and the athletic department serving the community is a big part of what they do in addition to scoring touchdowns and making baskets.

“Our student-athletes take an active role in the community. [This] is one of the missions and goals of the strategic plan of the university,” assistant athletic director for compliance Joel Vickery said. “The athletic department definitely buys into that.”

According to Vickery, last year the athletic department had over 500 hours of community service. One of the events that Eastern athletics usually take part in are stuffed animal drives, where they donate stuffed animals to children’s hospitals.

EWU athletics also takes part in reading to school children, and helping with Feed Cheney, which is a free meal and free grocery distribution for people in need. They participate in school supply drives and coin drives, which help the less fortunate gain access to shoes. Around \$600 was collected for this year’s coin drive. For the school supply drive, Eastern athletics collaborated with the Africana studies department.

The Eastern football team also helped raise \$3,100 for Special Olympics at Polar Plunge. “The Polar Plunge was actually a great time for us,” sophomore defensive back Jordan Tonani said. “We had quite a few guys that went out and participated. Coach [Beau] Baldwin came initially to support us, but he ended up coming in with us and jumping in the lake.”

“From what I’ve noticed in seeing and being a part of some of the initiatives that the student-athletes take on is they all have a lot of fun when they do [community service],” Vickery said. “I think they really find the joy of service whenever they go and do that stuff.”

Vickery mentioned that a lot of the different EWU sports teams usually do community service on their own. However, there is a group within Eastern athletics called SAAC, student-athlete advisory

committee, which includes a number of Eastern athletes getting together to serve the community. When a sport is out of season, teams usually have a little bit more time to provide their services to the community.

Senior track and field sprinter Angélica Rodríguez participated in the AVID program, or advancement via individual determination program, at Cheney High School during fall quarter. AVID is a program that is structured to increase learning and performance for students. She also participated in the Windsor Elementary Fitness Frenzy.

Rodríguez, who is also the SAAC president, is responsible for leading community service projects. The group organizes assignments and goals for the projects. They communicate and get feedback from each other in order to execute the projects in the best way.

Rodríguez sees the importance of serving the community as a learning experience for EWU athletes. “Each student-athlete then has the opportunity to learn something from these things going on around them that are outside of the athletic and academic worlds that they live in,” Rodríguez said.

“In serving the community, sometimes it seems that the way I can serve is insignificant or stressful at times,” Rodríguez said. “But those that I have the opportunity to serve may see it differently.”

Rodríguez is humbled to think that even small acts of kindness can mean a lot to people.

“It’s important for them to do that to understand that their entire lives are going to have aspects of that,” Vickery said. He explains that even when athletes move on and graduate college, they will probably take part in serving the community in their futures, because they understand the feeling of helping people in need.

“It doesn’t really change for any of us professionally who’ve gone on and graduated school. I know the college here and the athletic department. We all try to give back in ways for charitable organizations and events,” Vickery said.

Vickery appreciates the generosity that the athletes have with their time. “That’s what’s been so impressive to me is to see really just the good nature and the good



Photo by Sam Sargeant  
Sophomore Jordan Tonani sports his shirt from the Polar Plunge.

hearts that a lot of our student-athletes have,” Vickery said.

Tonani expressed his feelings about community service and how it affects him. “It’s a good feeling as just a human to be able to help people out who aren’t necessarily as fortunate as you,” Tonani said. “Someone has helped you out along the way, so why not give back and help some-

one else out as well. It’s very important to be doing things like that.”

Rodríguez plans on volunteering for the Special Olympics track meet held in Cheney in the spring. The school supply drive is also going to end on March 8 during the men’s basketball game against Weber State. Tonani plans on reading to grade school students about his college experience.

## Sports Bulletin

By Amye Ellsworth  
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A pair of basketball stars again received scholarship of the month nods. Redshirt sophomore Hayley Hodgins shot her way to the top with 22 points in the Feb. 15 game against Northern Arizona. Sophomore Venky Jois earned the honor on the male side after racking up 100 blocked shots in his career.

### Men’s Basketball

March 6 is the staff and faculty appreciation game against Idaho State at 6:05 p.m. The next home game is March 8 at 2:05 p.m. against Weber State, and fans can take post-game photos with their favorite players. Both of these are crucial Big Sky Conference games, as the top seven qualifying spots are still up for grabs.

### Women’s Basketball

With a third-place standing in the Big Sky Conference, the women have already clinched their right to a postseason. After losing their last home game of the season by four points to North Dakota, the team heads on the road for two more conference match-ups before the Big Sky quarterfinals on March 13.

### Men’s Tennis

The men faced their first Big Sky competition on Feb. 28 and March 2 against Northern Colorado and North Dakota, respectively. They are currently 1-0 in the conference after first losing in Colorado and then winning in North Dakota.

### Women’s Tennis

While the team struggled as they opened Big Sky action, junior Moira Hedberg secured wins in two singles and two doubles matches. In the March 1 match against Northern Colorado, these were the only singles wins for the team.

### Track and Field

Keisa Monterola and Jordan Arakawa each placed first in their respective events at the Indoor Big Sky Championships in Pocatello, Idaho, on Feb. 27 to March 1. Arakawa’s weight throw earned him his first Big Sky title, and his teammates Zach Nielsen and Jon Buchanan joined him on the podium, as the Eagles swept the weight throw. Monterola pole-vaulted her way to her fourth Big Sky title in five competitions.

# EWU men go 1-1 on the road Undeclared at home Northern Colorado loses to Eastern

By Ashlee Coffey  
STAFF WRITER  
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Eastern men’s basketball split a two-game series on the road beating Northern Colorado University bears, 80-66 on Feb. 27 and falling to North Dakota State University, 69-67, on March 1.

The Eagles put on quite a show at Northern Colorado with four ties and eight lead changes.

Shooting percentages were high and turnovers were low. Field goal shooting was at 49 percent where EWU went 24-of-49, 3-point shooting was at 42.3 percent with 11-of-26, free-throws shooting was at 70 percent and there were only eight turnovers for the entire game.

The Eagles out-rebounded the Bears, 35 to 25, had 15 assists, 13 second-chance points, 26 points in the paint and 21 points from the bench players.

“This was a great win and they were undefeated in home until we beat them,” head coach Jim Hayford said. “Our team showed great character to come back and play this way. This was our third game in five days. I’m just really proud of our team.”

Sophomore guard Tyler Harvey broke the school’s record for the number of single season 3-pointers made, totalling 104. He surpassed the previous record of 103 held by Shanon

Taylor set back in the 1998-99 season. Harvey finished the game with 31 points. The sophomore had seven three pointers this game.

“It’s becoming routine for Tyler [Harvey] — a 31-point and 7-of-11 from three. He is becoming a very special player.” Hayford said.

Sophomore forward Venky Jois finished with 10 points. Junior guard Drew Brandon and junior center Martin Seiferth both contributed seven points and six rebounds.

True freshman Ognjen Miljkovic came off the bench to contribute 11 points. Sophomore point guard Daniel Hill also came off the bench to chip in six points and four assists.

“We just all played together and all believe we can do something special this season. The team is learning to control the game to play our game and not let the other team control the tempo,” Brandon said.

At North Dakota State on March 1, the Eagles fell 67-69.

“It was a great basketball game and we played through a lot of adversity. We had a quick turnaround from playing on Thursday. [Feb. 27] Our players had it right there until the buzzer,” Hayford said.

Eastern was looking to get its first road sweep in 10 years but failed to do so. Nonetheless, the Eagles put up some interesting numbers.

Shooting percentages were as follows: Field goal shooting was at 49 percent, 3-point shooting was at 33 percent and free throw shooting dropped to 48 percent this game.

Eastern again out-rebounded their opponent 40 to 33. They had 16 second chance points, 34 points in the paint and the bench contributed 21 points. The Eagles also had 16 turnovers this game.

Jois and Seiferth both contributed double-doubles for EWU. Jois finished with 22 points, 11 rebounds and two blocked shots. Seiferth finished with 13 points, 15 rebounds and four blocked shots.

Harvey finished this game with 11 points.

Miljkovic came off the bench again to contribute 13 points and three rebounds.

“We needed to at least get a split on this road trip. Everyone knew that they had to play their best in order for us to extend our season. We have to play defense in order for us to win on the road,” junior guard Parker Kelly said. “Our coaching staff did [an] awesome job of preparing us. We are just playing for each other and giving it everything we have to finish out the regular season strong.”

The Eagles return home to finish regular season play at Reese Court March 6 against Idaho State and March 8 against Weber State.

# Football sharpens running game

By Ashlee Coffey  
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Eastern football is looking to keep their running game sharp going into spring training for the 2014 season.

Running backs offer quarterbacks an important, and sometimes vital, outlet when other passing options are not available.

“It’s very important because it keeps the defense honest,” sophomore quarterback Vernon Adams said. “They can’t just watch film on us and say ‘EWU is strictly a running team or passing

team.’ They have to be ready for our passing attack, the running game and the read option.”

Two key running backs for Eastern in 2013 were juniors Mario Brown and Quincy Forte.

Brown played in all 15 games on the 2010 championship team as a freshman. He rushed for 23 yards on 13 carries and caught a career-high 57 passes for the Eagles. In 2011, Brown rushed for 100 yards on 15 carries. He was redshirted in 2012. Coming off of his redshirt year, the senior running

back came back for the 2013 season to average 34.4 yards per game and ran for four touchdowns.

“The run game is very important for this team because it allows us to catch opposing teams off guard,” Brown said. “Just when you think we’re a passing team, we show we can run the ball. It is important to be a balanced team that way. If your passing game isn’t working like you want, you can go to the run game and vice versa.”

Forte played for the Eagles in 2011 as a true freshman. He scored two

touchdowns and went for 206 yards rushing on 20 carries. In 2012, he started four games. He had a career-high 116 yards in one game in the FCS playoffs against Illinois State Dec. 8 of the same year. He averages 86.3 yards per game and has rushed for 11 touchdowns.

“The running game is very important. Having a good running game will keep us balanced and other teams won’t know how to play us,” Forte said.

Eastern will continue to work on their running game when spring training begins April 4.